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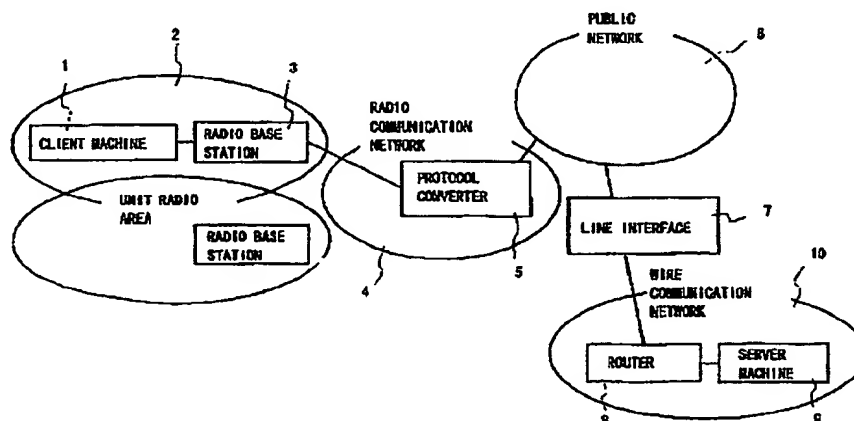
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(54) Radio data communication method and system

(57) A radio data communication method in which a client machine logs in a wire communication network via a radio communication network, a public network and a line interface for transmitting/receiving data to/from a server machine in the wire network, comprising a step of inserting control data at the head of data to transmit/receive and suppressing the number of responses

from a remote station, checking the reason of disconnection and reconnecting the communication line automatically when the line is disconnected due to deterioration of connection quality, re-establishing connection with said server machine, and restarting data transmission from the end of the transmitted data.

FIG. 1



and system of the present invention comprise a step/means *of/for* re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to changes in the received signal strength indicator during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station, thereby decreasing the sending data size when the radio line is disconnected and realizing high speed efficient data transmission and reception.

[0014] Fifth, the radio data communication method and system of the present invention comprise a step/means *of/for* re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to the number of disconnection occurred during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station, thereby decreasing the sending data size when the radio line is disconnected and realizing high speed efficient data transmission and reception.

[0015] Sixth, the radio data communication method and system of the present invention comprise a step/means *of/for* re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to the number of re-sending data occurred in a radio communication protocol during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station, thereby decreasing the re-sending data size when the radio line is disconnected and realizing high speed and efficient data transmission and reception.

[0016] This and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent upon a reading of the following detailed description and drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing a basic configuration of a first embodiment of the radio data communication method of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a block diagram of the client machine shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a block diagram of the server machine shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the relationship between a model of protocol for communication with different models and a first embodiment of the data communication method, and a concept of a first embodiment of the data communication method;

Fig. 5 is a diagram showing examples of a control data format and profile data format;

Fig. 6 is a diagram showing an example of a control sequence for sending data from a client machine to a server machine;

Fig. 7 is a flowchart showing a process from connection of a radio line to data transmission/reception;

Fig. 8 is a flowchart showing a process of connecting a radio line in step S5;

Fig. 9(a) - Fig. 9(d) are flowcharts showing a process of checking connection in step S18;

Fig. 10 is a diagram showing the relationship between the notified received signal strength indicator and a threshold value;

Fig. 11 is a flowchart showing a process when the line state monitor receives a dial-up start or stop request from the line control unit;

Fig. 12(a) - Fig. 12(e) are flowcharts showing a process of checking connection in step S27;

Fig. 13(a) and Fig. 13(b) are flowcharts showing a process of establishing connection with the network protocol of the server machine in step S10;

Fig. 14(a) and Fig. 14(b) are flowcharts showing a process of data communication with the server machine in step S12;

Fig. 15 is a flowchart showing a process of re-sending data when the radio line is disconnected during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 16(a) and Fig. 16(b) are flowcharts showing a process of re-sending data when a radio line is disconnected during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 17(a) and Fig. 17(b) are flowcharts showing a process of re-sending data when a radio line is disconnected during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 18(a) and Fig. 18(b) are flowcharts showing a process of changing a profile value by detecting a radio wave state on a radio line during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 19(a) and Fig. 19(b) are flowcharts showing a process of changing a profile value according to the number of line disconnection occurred within given time during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 20(a) and Fig. 20(b) are flowcharts showing a process of changing a profile value according to the number of data re-sending occurred in a radio communication protocol during data transmission using a radio line;

Fig. 21(a) and Fig. 21(b) are flowcharts showing a process of connecting/re-connecting a line in the configuration that the radio control unit can not notify the received signal strength indicator to the line state monitor, and instead, it notifies whether the client machine 1 is in a radio area (in/out zone information);

Fig. 22 is a table showing examples of control commands set in Command ID shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 23 is a table showing an example of received signal strength indicator and profile data;

Fig. 24 is a table showing an example of disconnection number and profile data;

Fig. 25 is a table showing an example of number of re-sending and profile data.

[0017] The embodiments of the present invention are described hereinafter by referring to the attached draw-

communication interface device 27 and sends it to the communication service program 231; and a line connect/disconnect request unit 232c which receives the line connect/disconnect request from the supervisor or the communication service program 231 and connects/disconnects the line.

[0031] Operation of this embodiment is described in details by referring to the attached drawings.

[0032] Fig. 4 shows the relationship between the protocol model for communication with different types of machine and the data communication method by this embodiment, and the concept of the data communication method of this embodiment.

[0033] In the radio data communication system of this embodiment, data is compensated by the radio communication protocol between the line interface 7 and the radio control unit 18 in the client machine 1. The line interface 7 is located at a very short distance to the communication interface device in the server machine 9 to minimize the number of data transfer errors caused by the collision of data, that is to say in terms of the model, data is regarded as being compensated at a level lower than a data link layer (L2).

[0034] Thus, in the transport layer (L4), a process of compensating data by time-out and re-sending by TCP defined in Request For Comments 793 (RFC 793), and a process of checking whether data changes during transmission are unnecessary, and instead, a process of sending/receiving data to/from the network layer (L3) by User Datagram Protocol (UDP) defined in RFC 768 is provided, and a mechanism suitable for radio data communication is provided.

[0035] Fig. 5 shows examples of a control data format and a profile data format.

[0036] Fig. 22 is a table showing examples of control commands that are set in the command ID shown in Fig. 5.

[0037] As a mechanism suitable for radio data communication, control data as shown in Fig. 5 is inserted at the head of the data which is transferred between the network protocol 132b of the client machine 1 and the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9.

[0038] The head is set the version of control data format as a version in the format, likewise, the value of the command ID in Fig. 22 showing the type of a control command as a command ID, the sequence number of transmission data as SSN, the sequence number of the received data as RSN, the profile data length as ProfileDataLength, the user data length as UserDataLength, the maximum size dividing the transmission data as PacketLength, and the number of packets which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station as WindowSize, respectively.

[0039] Fig. 6 shows an example of a control sequence for sending data from the client machine 1 to the server machine 9.

[0040] The client machine 1 of the transmission side

sets the sequence number of data to send to SSN, and continuously transmits the control data + data divided into the size of PacketLength as a maximum to the server machine 9 by the WindowSize number. Receiving the WindowSize number of the data, the server machine 9 of the receiver side sets the sequence number of the data received by that time, sends back a response and transfers the data by repeating the above process.

[0041] As to operation of this example using the above control data, first a process from connecting a radio line to sending data is explained using Fig. 7.

[0042] When the user operates the communication application 131 in RAM of the client machine 1 (step S1), the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c asks the user to determine whether the radio line is connected or not (steps S2), and goes to step S4 if the user answers Yes, and goes to step 3 if No.

[0043] In step S3, radio data communication that is not using the method of the present invention is performed. In step S4, the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c requests the line control unit 132d to connect the line. Receiving the line connect request, the line control unit 132d moves to the step of connecting a radio line (step S5), judges whether connection is completed (step S6), and goes to step S8 if Yes and step S7 if No.

[0044] In step S7, the line control unit 132d informs the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c that the radio line is in non-connectable state and urges to notify it to the user. In step 8, the line control unit 132d notifies the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c and network protocol 132b that the connection is completed, and moves to the step of monitoring the received signal strength indicator (step S9).

[0045] The network protocol 132b moves to the step of establishing connection with the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 (step S10). After establishing connection, the network protocol 132b notifies it to the communication application 131 (step S11). The communication application 131 performs data communication with the server machine 9 via the network protocol 132b (step S12).

[0046] Step S5 for connecting a radio line is explained using Fig. 8.

[0047] The line control unit 132d check first that both of connection interface device 17 and radio control unit 18 are operating (step S13), and moves to step S15 if Yes, and step S14 if No.

[0048] In step S14, the line control unit 132d notifies it to the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c, and urges the user to re-start the communication application 131 after checking the operation. In step 15, the line control unit 132d checks whether the connection interface device 17 or radio control unit 18 is used, and moves to step S16 if Yes, and step S14 if No.

[0049] In step S16, the line control unit 132d requests the line state monitor 132e to monitor the line state, and

establishing connection with the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 is explained below using Fig. 13.

[0072] In Fig. 13(a), after receiving the connection completed notice from the line control unit 132d, the network protocol 132b sets a packet length and a window size, sends an open request control command to the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 via the connection interface device 17 (step S41), sets the clock unit 14 to notify C after given time (step S42), and waits for reception of an open response control command from the server machine 9 (step S43).

[0073] In the above state of waiting for the reception, when receiving the notice C the clock unit 14 before receiving the open response control command, the network protocol 132b checks to see if re-sending is performed by given times (step S44), and moves to step S45 if Yes, and step S46 if No.

[0074] In step S45, the network protocol notifies the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c that connection could not be made with the network protocol, and urges to notify it to the user. Then, the line connect/disconnect request unit sends a disconnect request to the line control unit, and disconnects the radio line.

[0075] In step S46, the network protocol sends again the open request control command to the network protocol 132b of the server machine 9, and moves to step S43.

[0076] In Fig. 13(b), when receiving the open response control command from the server machine 9, the network protocol sends an open check control command (step S47), sets the clock unit 14 to notify D after given time (step S48), notifies the communication application 131 that the connection is established (step S11), and waits until the communication application 131 sends data or the clock unit 14 sends the notice D (step S49). Then, the communication application 131 performs data transfer with the communication service program 231 of the server machine 9 via the network protocol 132b (step 12).

[0077] The given time and the number of times used in this example are one of the control parameters set by the user, and are notified from the input parameter setting unit 132a.

[0078] Step S12 for data communication with the server machine 9 is explained using Fig. 14.

[0079] In Fig. 14(a), the communication application 131 sends data to the network protocol 132b at any time (step S50). The network protocol 132b stores data in the area A of RAM13 (step S51), and moves to step S12.

[0080] In Fig. 14(b), when receiving the notice D from the clock unit 14, the network protocol checks the size of the data stored in the area A to see if it is larger than the packet length negotiated with the server machine 9 during the connection establishing process (step S52), and moves to step S53 if Yes, and step S54 if No.

[0081] In step S53, the network protocol 132b cuts the data into the negotiated packet lengths, and moves to

step S54. In step S54, the network protocol sets SSN, sends a data transmission control command to the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 via the connection interface device, clears the sent data from the area A (step S55), saves the data in the area B in RAM 13 (step S56), and checks the number of continuously sent data frames to see if it reaches the window size negotiated with the server machine 9 during the connection establishing process (step S57), and moves to step S58 if Yes, and step S12 if No.

[0082] In step S58, the network protocol 132b waits for the data transmission response control command from the server machine 9, and after receiving the command, the network protocol clears the set data up to RSN from the area B (step S59), and moves to step S12. The above processing sequence is continued till reaching the end of the data sent from the communication application 131.

[0083] Second, a process of re-sending data when a radio line is disconnected during data transmission using a radio line is explained using Fig. 15, Fig. 16 and Fig. 17.

[0084] In Fig. 15, when receiving a disconnection notice from the line state monitor 132a during monitoring the received signal strength indicator (step S9), the line control unit 132d checks by the attached reason to see if the line is disconnected due to deterioration of the connection quality (step S60), and moves to step S62 if Yes, and step S61 if No.

[0085] In step 61, the line control unit 132d notifies disconnection to the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c and the network protocol 132b. In step S62, the line control unit moves from step S39 to a re-connection process.

[0086] When the radio line is re-connected, the network protocol 132b re-establishes connection with the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9.

[0087] Fig. 16(a) is a flowchart showing a process of sending data from the client machine 1 to the server machine 9.

[0088] In Fig. 16(a), the network protocol 132b sends a re-connection request control command to the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 via the connection interface device 17 (step S63), sets the clock unit 14 to notify E after any given time (step S64), and waits for a re-connection response control command from the server machine 9 (step S65).

[0089] In the above waiting state, when receiving the notice D from the clock unit 14 before a re-connect response control command, the network protocol 132b checks to see if re-sending is repeated by a given number of times (step S66), and moves to step S67 if Yes, and step S68 if No.

[0090] In step S67, the network protocol 132b notifies the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c that connection could not be re-established between the network protocols 132b and 232b, and urges to inform the user of it. Then, the line connect/disconnect request unit

a profile change request control command to the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 via the connection interface 17 (step S105), sets the clock unit 14 to notify H after any given time (step S106), and waits for a profile change response control command from the server machine 9 (step S107).

[0111] In the above waiting state, when receiving a notice H from the clock unit 14 before a profile change response control command, the network protocol 132b gives up changing the profile and continues data communication based on the set value (step S12).

[0112] In Fig. 19(b), when receiving the profile change response command from the server machine 9, the network protocol continues data communication using a newly negotiated value (step S12).

[0113] A third embodiment of the present invention is described hereinafter.

[0114] Since the basic configuration of the communication system of this embodiment is similar to that of the first example, it is explained by referring to Fig. 1, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3.

[0115] As a third example, a process of changing a profile value according to the number of re-send times occurred in the radio communication protocol during data transmission using a radio line is explained using Fig. 20.

[0116] In this example, each time re-send of data occurs in the radio communication protocol, the radio control unit 18 notifies it to the line control unit 132d via the line state monitor 132e.

[0117] In Fig. 20(a), after notifying establishment of connection to the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c and the network protocol 132b (step S8), the line control unit 132d sets the clock unit 14 to notify I after any given time (step S120), and goes into the standby state.

[0118] In the above standby state, when receiving the re-send notice from the line state monitor 132e, the line control unit holds the number of notification times (step S121). In the above standby state, when receiving the notice I from the clock unit 14, the line control unit checks to see if the number of re-send times notified in the previous standby state is equal to the number of re-send times notified in the present standby state (step S102), and moves to step S121 if Yes, and step S123 if No.

[0119] In step S123, the line control unit gets the profile data to re-set from the table showing the re-send times and profile data prepared previously. Fig. 25 shows an example of the table showing the re-send times and profile data.

[0120] In step S124, the control line notifies the obtained profile value to the network protocol 132b. Receiving said notice, the network protocol 132b sends a profile change request control command to the network protocol 232b of the server machine 9 via the connection interface 17 (step S125), sets the clock unit 14 to notify J after any given time (step S126), and waits for

a profile change response control command from the server machine 9 (step S127).

[0121] In the above waiting state, when receiving a notice J from the clock unit 14 before a profile change response control command, the line control unit gives up changing the profile and continues data communication based on the set value (step S12).

[0122] In Fig. 20(b), when receiving the profile change response command from the server machine 9, the line control unit continues data communication using a newly negotiated value (step S12).

[0123] A fourth embodiment of the present invention is described hereinafter.

[0124] Since the basic configuration of the communication system of this example is similar to that of the first example, it is explained by referring to Fig. 1, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3.

[0125] In a fourth example, the radio control unit 18 can not notify the received signal strength indicator to the line state monitor 132e, and instead, it notifies whether the client machine 1 is in the radio zone (in/out zone information). A process of connecting/re-connecting the line is explained using Fig. 21.

[0126] In Fig. 21(a), when receiving a connection request from the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c or when the line is re-connected after once disconnected due to deterioration of connection quality (step S15), the line control unit 132d requests the line state monitor 132e to monitor the line state (step S140), sets the clock unit 14 to notify A after the time required to judge whether it is connectable or not (step S141), and goes into the standby state (step S142).

[0127] Receiving the line state monitor request, the line state monitor 132a gets the in/out zone information from the radio control unit 18 via the connection interface device 17 (step S143), and when the client machine 1 goes into the radio zone, notifies it to the line control unit 132d (step S144).

[0128] In Fig. 21(b), the line control unit 132d is in the standby state, and accepts the request from the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c, the notice from the clock unit 14 and the notice from the line state monitor 132e. When receiving the connection request from the line connect/disconnect request unit 132c, the line control unit moves to step S21. When receiving the notice A from the clock unit 14, the line control unit moves to step S24. When receiving the in-zone notice from the line state monitor 132e, the line control unit waits for any given time (step S145) and moves to step S27.

[0129] The present invention, being constituted as described above, has the following effects.

- (1) A process of compensating data by time-out and re-send during data transmission/reception, and a process of checking whether data changes during transmission are unnecessary, and high speed and efficient data transmission/reception can be realized by suppressing the number of responses from

the end of the transmitted data.

8. The radio communication system of claim 7, comprising a means of re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to changes in the received signal strength indicator during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station. 5
9. The system of claim 7 or 8, comprising a means for re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to the number of disconnection occurred during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station. 10 15
10. The system of claim 7, 8 or 9, comprising a means for re-setting the size of data to transmit/receive according to the number of re-sending data occurred in a radio communication protocol during data transmission and the number of frames which can be continuously transmitted without waiting for the response from a remote station. 20 25
11. The system of claim 7, 8, 9 or 10, comprising a means for monitoring the received signal strength indicator and re-establishing connection with said server machine if the received signal strength indicator exceeds the threshold value. 30
12. The system of claim 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11, comprising a means for monitoring the in/out area information and re-establishing connection with said server machine if the received the in/out area information that the client machine is in the radio area. 35

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FIG. 2

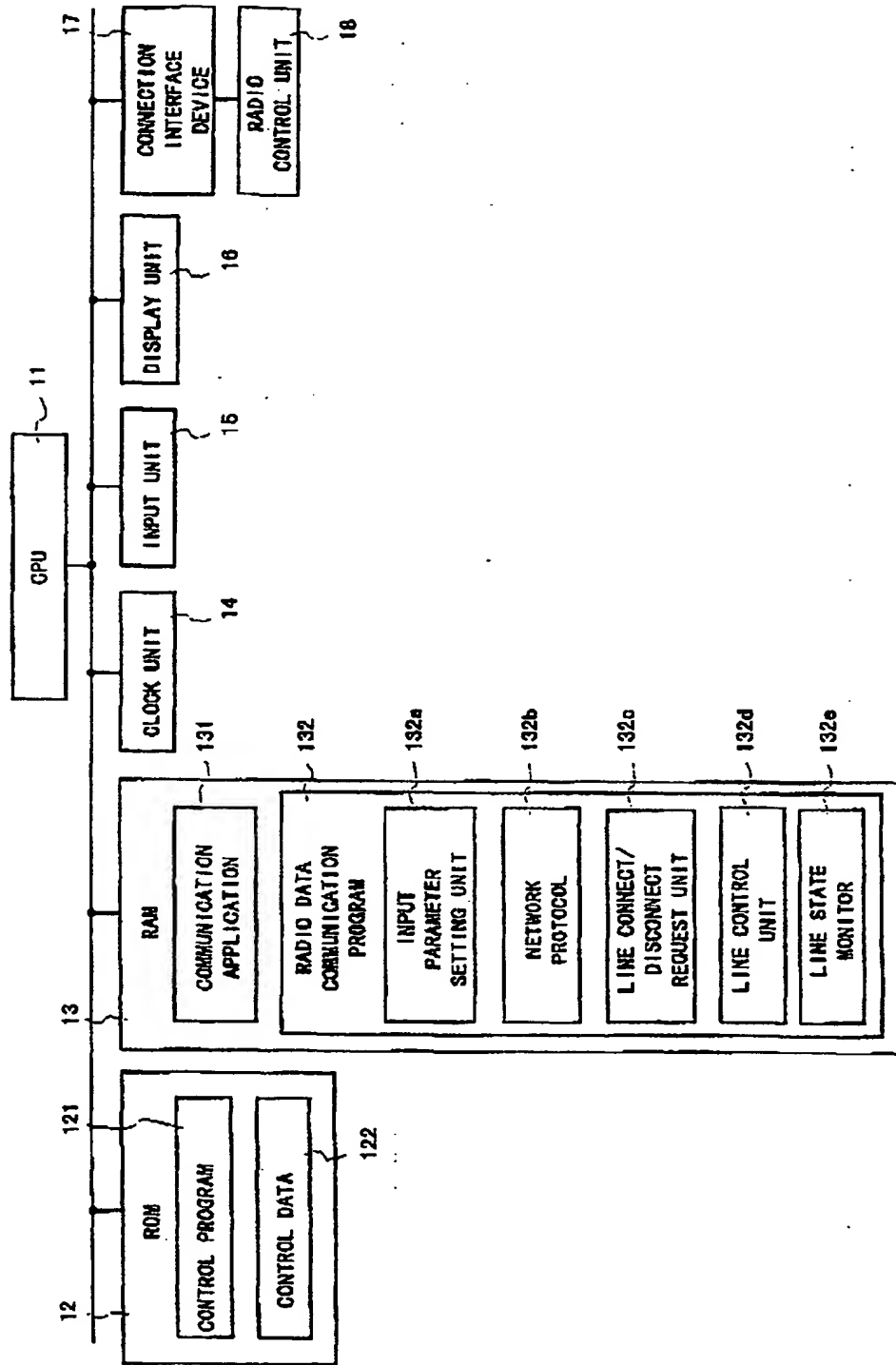


FIG.4

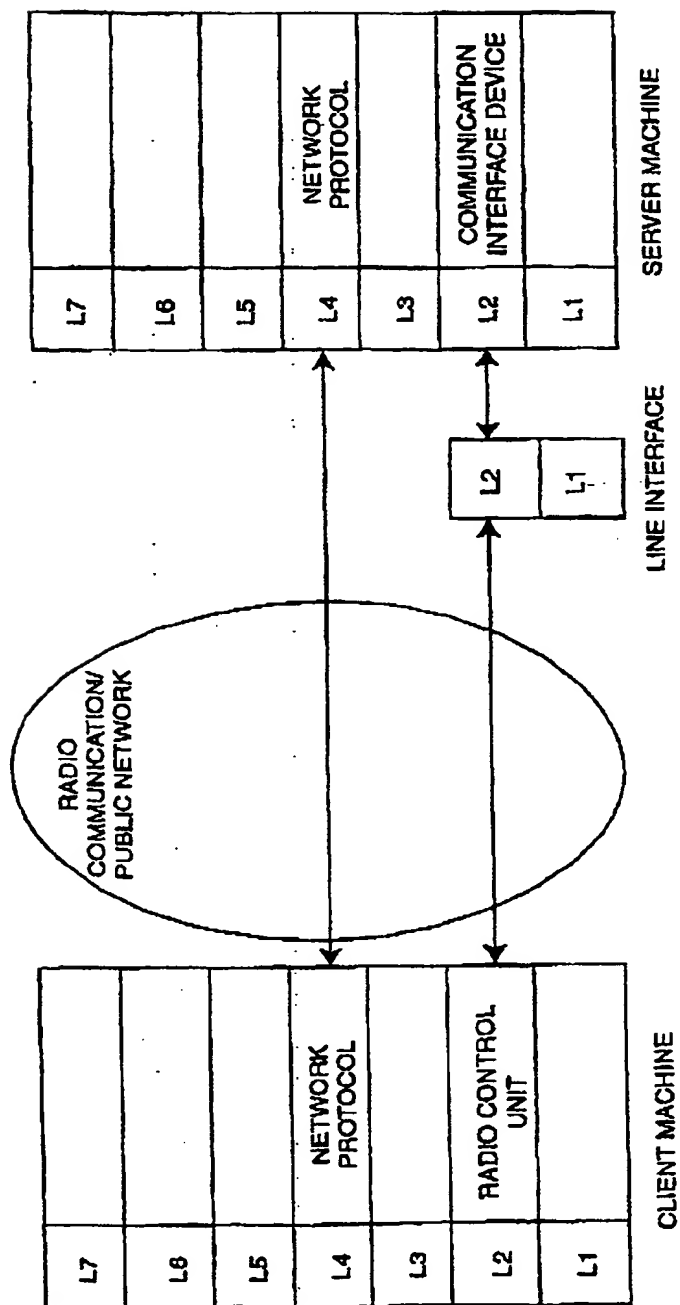


FIG.7

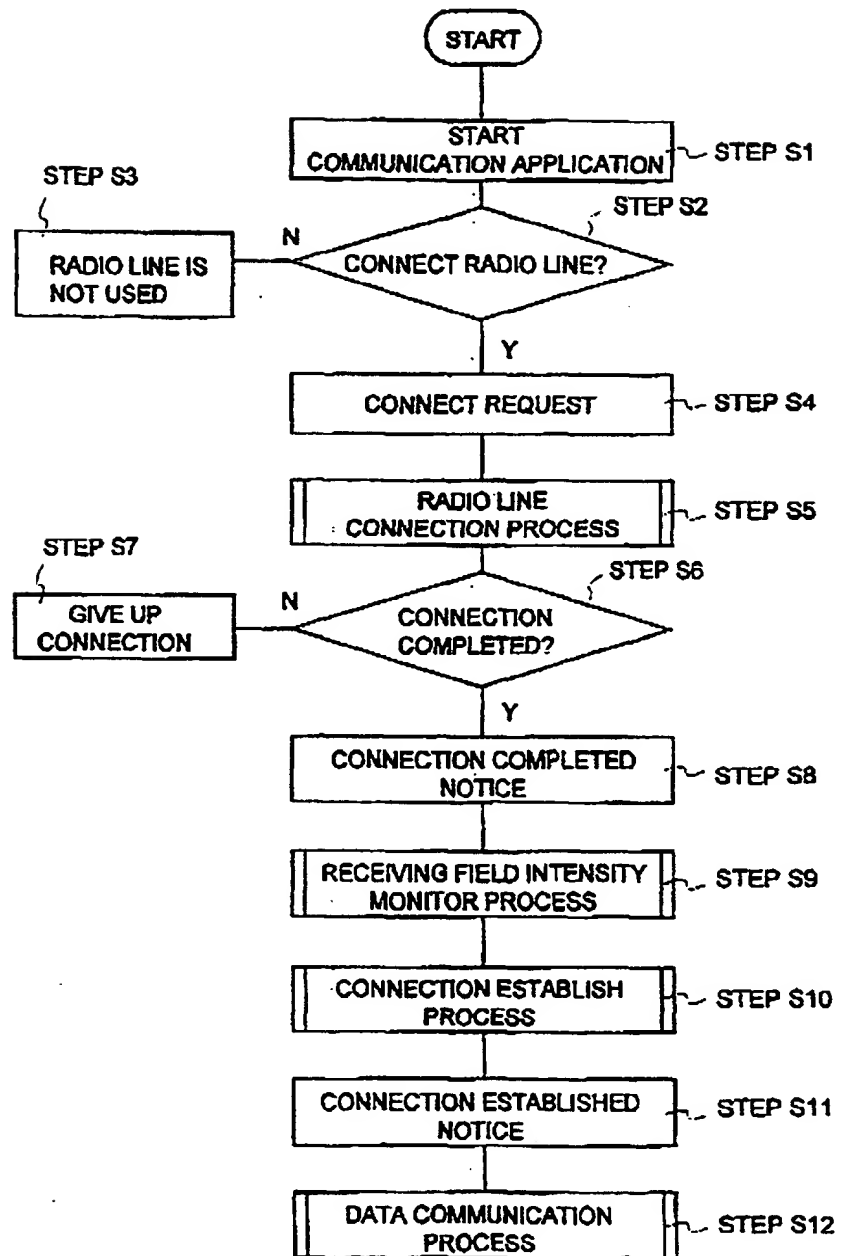


FIG.9

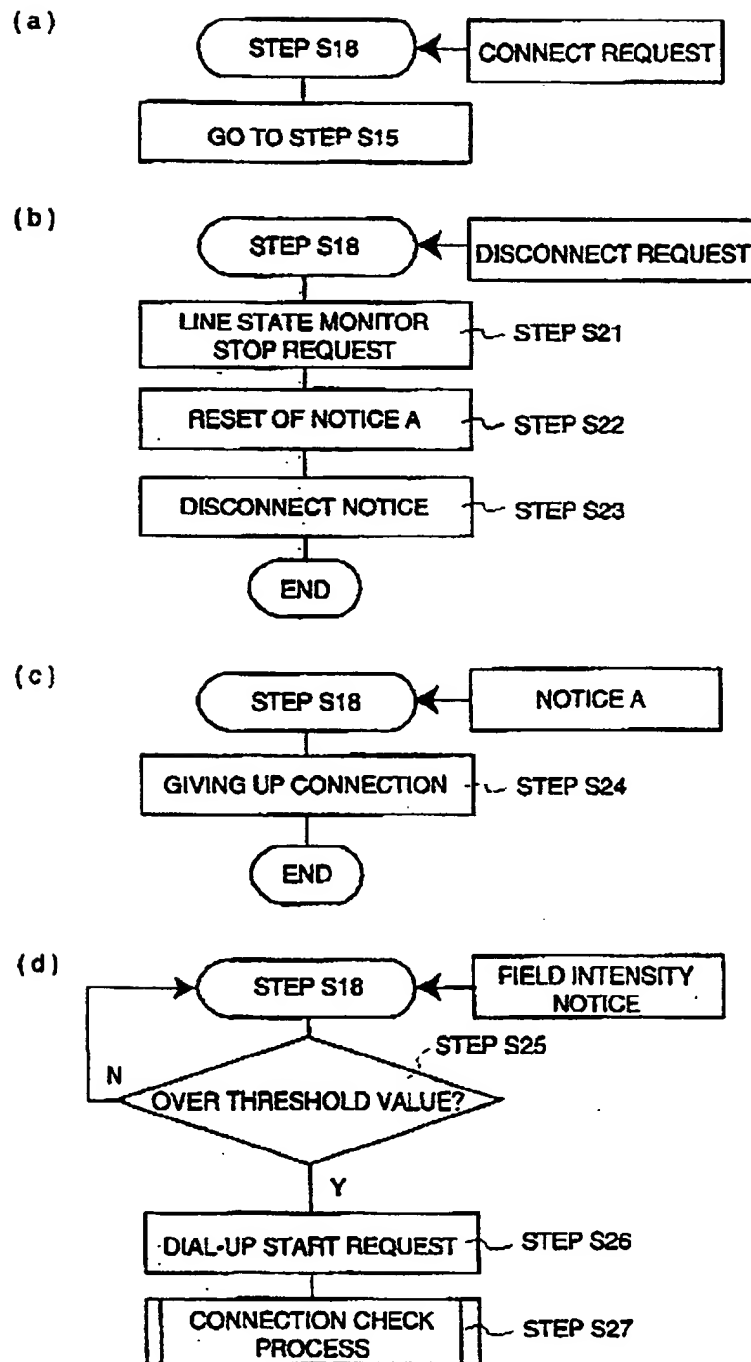


FIG.12

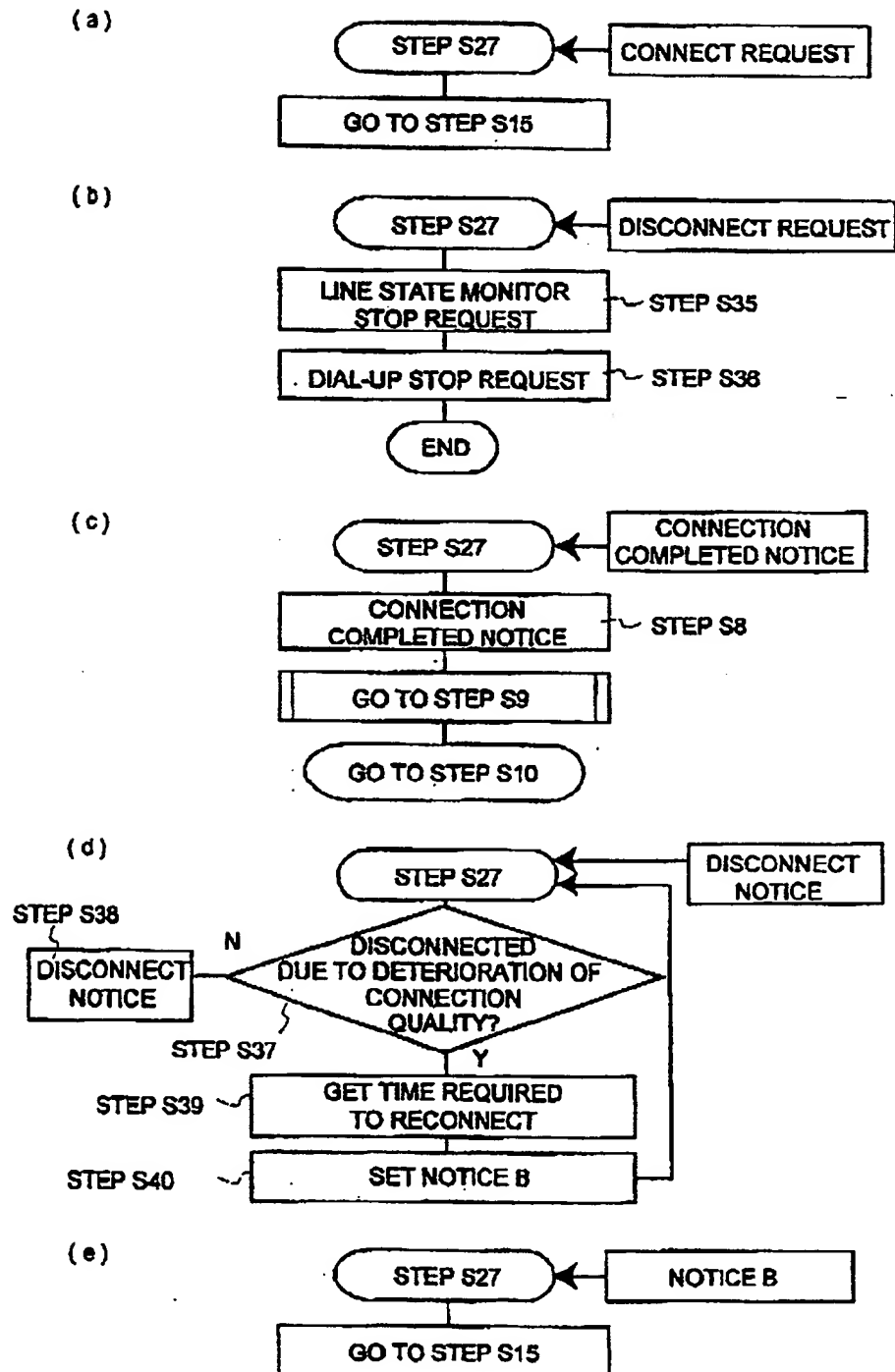


FIG.14

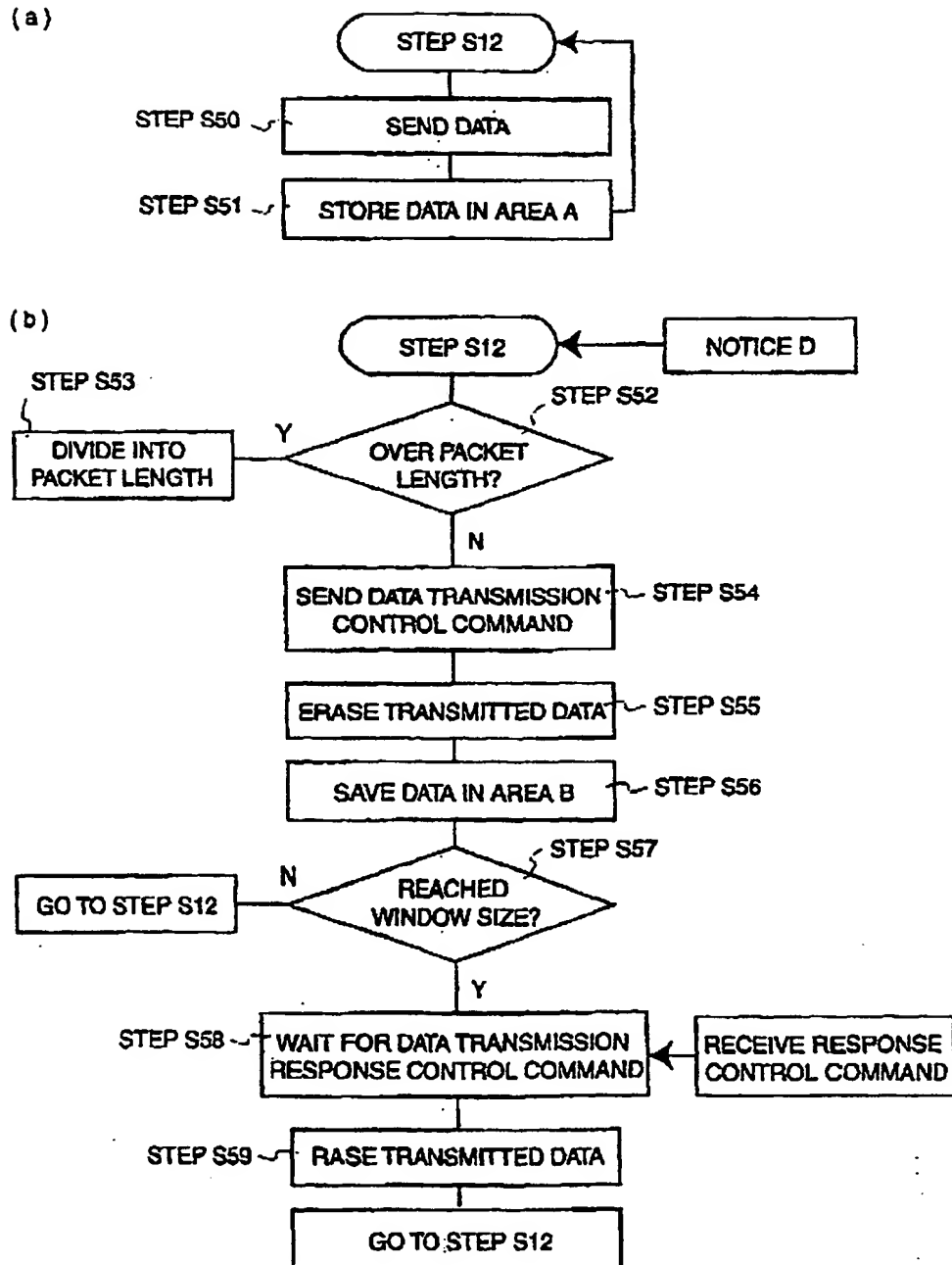
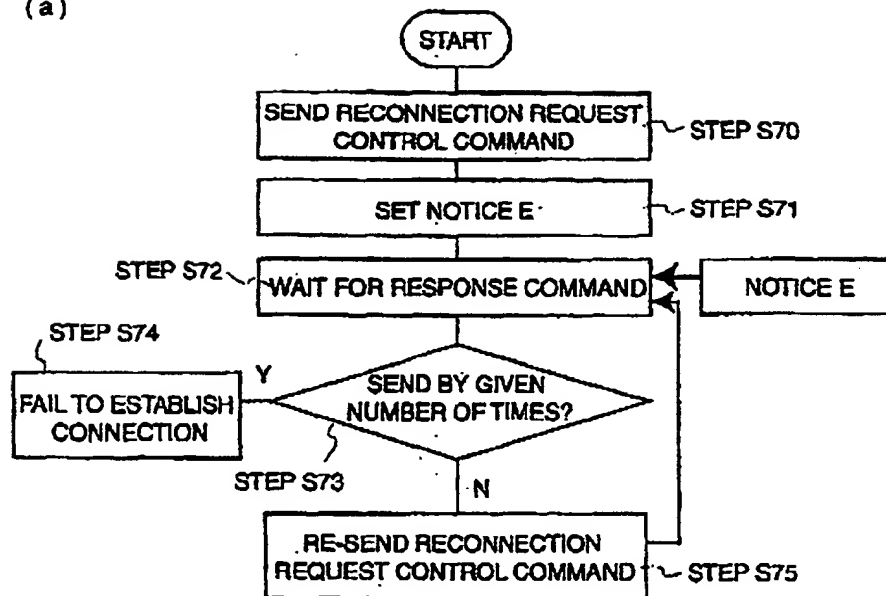


FIG.17

(a)



(b)

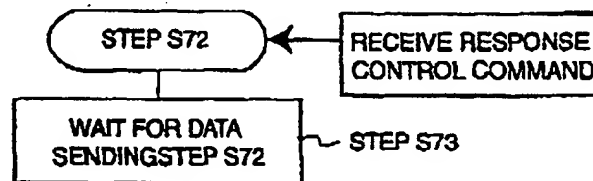
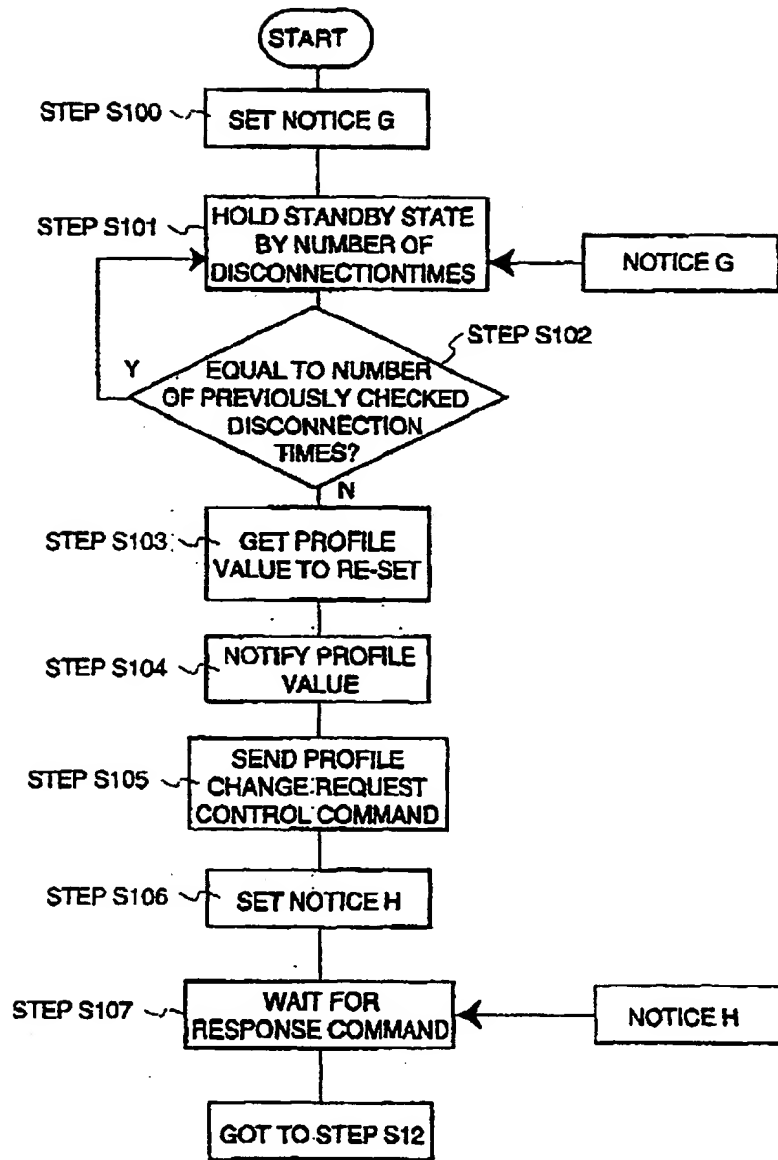


FIG.19

(a)



(b)

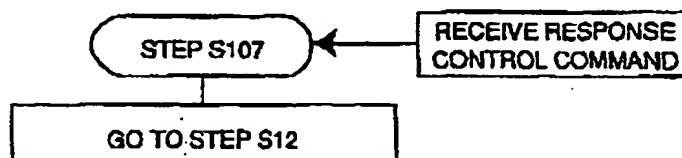
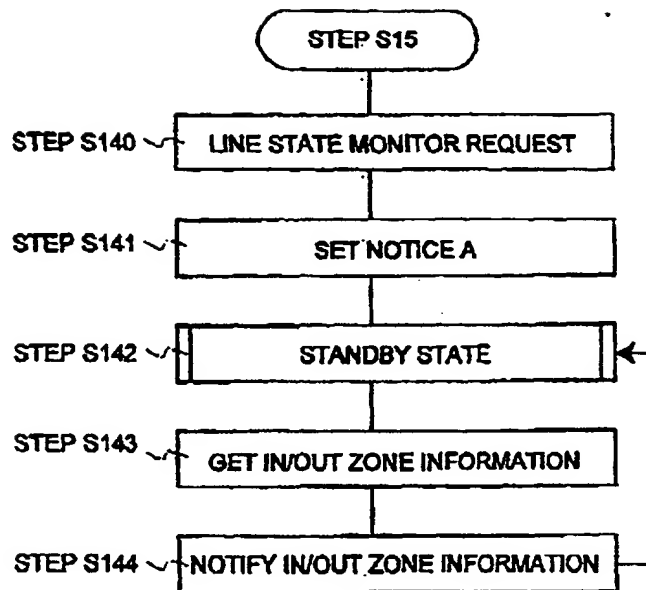


FIG.21

(a)



(b)

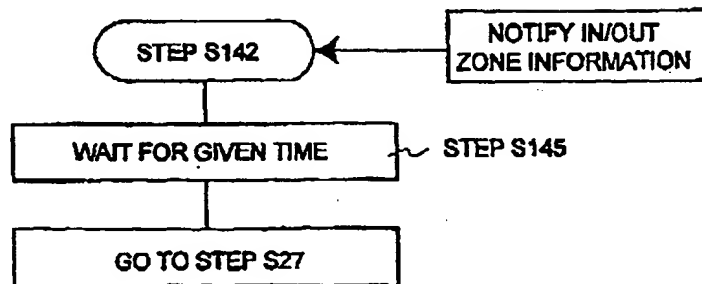


FIG.23

INTENSITY OF RECEIVING FIELD (db)	PacketLength (Byte)	Wndsize (Quantity)
40	8192	256
30	4096	128
20	1024	24
10	256	4

FIG.24

NUMBER OF DISCONNECTION (NUMBER/TIME)	PacketLength (Byte)	Wndsize (Quantity)
1	8192	256
2	4096	128
3	1024	24
4	256	4

FIG.25

NUMBER OF RE-SENDING (NUMBER/TIME)	PacketLength (Byte)	Wndsize (Quantity)
1	8192	256
5	4096	128
10	1024	24
20	256	4



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 10 5113

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 802 691 A (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO) 22 October 1997 (1997-10-22) * page 4, column 6, line 56 - page 6, column 9, line 33 *	1,5,7,11	H04Q7/20 H04L12/28 H04L1/00
Y	* page 6, column 9, line 44 - page 7, column 12, line 41 * * claims 1-11 *	2-4,6, 8-10,12	
X	----- FUJINO N ET AL: "MOBILE INFORMATION SERVICE BASED ON MULTI-AGENT ARCHITECTURE" IEICE TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS, vol. E80-B, no. 10, 1 October 1997 (1997-10-01), pages 1401-1406, XP000734533 ISSN: 0916-8516 * page 1402, right-hand column, paragraph 4.1 - page 1403, right-hand column, line 3 * * page 1404, right-hand column, line 1 - line 5 *	1,7	
X	----- US 5 566 225 A (HAAS ZYGMUNT) 15 October 1996 (1996-10-15) * abstract * * column 1, line 1 - column 3, line 5; claims 1,2,22,23 *	1,7	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H04L H04Q
Y	----- EP 0 328 100 A (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO) 16 August 1989 (1989-08-16) * abstract * * page 2, column 1, line 1 - page 3, column 3, line 54 *	6,12	
Y	----- US 4 841 526 A (WILSON JON C ET AL) 20 June 1989 (1989-06-20) * column 3, line 38 - column 4, line 56 * * column 8, line 6 - line 48 * * column 9, line 9 - column 10, line 22 * ----- -/-	2-4,8-10	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>17 August 2000</b>	Examiner <b>Karavassilis, N</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date O : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04031)



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Application Number

EP 99 10 5113

#### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

#### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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